LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, or listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the claims:

1. (Previously presented) A peptide vector comprising a leader peptide, a linker DNA, and a desired nucleic acid sequence, wherein said linker DNA is double-stranded, and wherein only one strand of said linker DNA is covalently bound to said leader peptide, and wherein the leader peptide comprises SEQ ID NO:1 or a variant of SEQ ID NO:1 in which the amino acid residue at position 2 is isoleucine; position 4 is leucine; position 10 is arginine; position 11 is lysine; or position 13 is leucine, isoleucine, arginine, glutamine, asparagine or serine; or a combination of any of the foregoing.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously presented) The peptide vector according to claim 1, wherein the linker DNA comprises SEQ ID NO:2 and SEQ ID NO:3.

4. (Previously presented) A peptide vector comprising a peptide having the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1, or a variant of SEQ ID NO:1 in which the amino acid residue at position 2 is isoleucine; position 4 is leucine; position 10 is arginine; position 11 is lysine; or position 13 is leucine, isoleucine, arginine, glutamine, asparagine or serine; or a combination of any of the foregoing, a DNA having the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2, and a DNA having the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:3.

5. (Previously presented) A method of producing a peptide vector comprising: covalently linking a peptide having the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1 or a variant of SEQ ID NO:1 in which the amino acid residue at position 2 is isoleucine; position 4 is leucine; position 10 is arginine; position 11 is lysine; or position 13 is leucine, isoleucine, arginine, glutamine, asparagine or serine; or a combination of any of the foregoing; and a DNA having the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2; and hybridizing a nucleic acid having the DNA sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:3 to a nucleic acid having the DNA sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2.

6. (Previously presented) A method of introducing and expressing <u>in a target cell</u> a desired nucleic acid sequence comprising infecting <u>said</u> target ~~cells~~ <u>cell</u> with a peptide vector which comprises a leader peptide, a linker DNA, and a desired nucleic acid sequence, wherein said linker DNA is double-stranded, and wherein only one strand of said linker DNA is covalently bound to said leader peptide, and wherein the leader peptide comprises SEQ ID

NO:1 or a variant of SEQ ID NO:1 in which the amino acid residue at position 2 is isoleucine; position 4 is leucine; position 10 is arginine; position 11 is lysine; or position 13 is leucine, isoleucine, arginine, glutamine, asparagine or serine; or a combination of any of the foregoing.

7. (Canceled).

8. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein the linker DNA comprises a DNA having the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2, and a DNA having the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:3.

9. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein said target cell is a cell *in vitro*.

10. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein said target cell is a cell *in vitro*.

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesy of the telephonic interview held November 15, 2005. Examiner Katcheves and Applicant's representative, Lawrence S. Graham, participated in the interview. The interview participants discussed the nonenablement rejection of pending claims 6 and 8. Applicant's representative suggested filing a Declaration in support of enablement. Applicant's representative also argued that transient expression of a nucleic acid should not, in itself, be a bar to nonenablement, as other, non-nucleic acid treatments are transient in nature. The Examiner, with Applicant's thanks, suggested that claims 6 and 8, limited to *in vitro* methods, would be allowable. No agreement was reached during the interview with respect to claim 6 and 8, and Applicant's representative agreed to file a response to the final Office Action including arguments discussed in the interview.